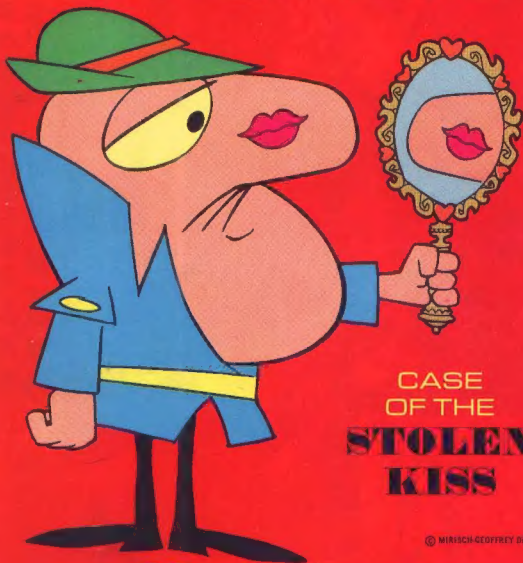




THE INSPECTOR

25¢

THE INSPECTOR



CASE
OF THE
**STOLEN
KISS**

© MIRISCH-GEOFFREY DFE

Plus

THE PINK PANTHER

**FORTUNE
COOKIE**



"IT ALL STARTED SO INNOCENTLY! I MERELY BORROWED THE MARKET CART TO WHEEL MY GROCERIES HOME, AS SO MANY SHOPPERS DO..."



"BUT THEN A VERY STRANGE THING HAPPENED..."



"ALREADY HE HAD ME CONFESSING AND MAKING EXCUSES!"

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"ONCE CONSCIENCE SPEAKS, IT IS LIKE A FIERY COAL BURNING WITHIN THE SOUL! I ARGUED WITH MYSELF..."



"TO MY HORROR I FOUND THAT EVEN THE REMOTE SIGHTING OF A POLICEMAN MADE MY HEART POUND LIKE A JUDGE'S GAVEL..."



"CONSCIENCE PURSUED ME LIKE AN AVENGING ANGEL!"

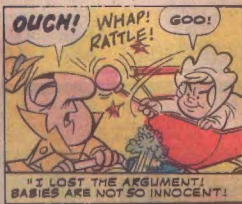


"I FLED FASTER AND FASTER, LIKE A MORTIFIED MOUSE!"

"ONCE THE LIFE OF CRIME IS UNDERTAKEN, THE LIST OF OFFENSES GROWS RAPIDLY!"



"I FOUND MYSELF LONGING FOR THE GOOD OLD DAYS OF THE SIMPLE CHARGE, 'LITTER BUG!'"



"I LOST THE ARGUMENT! BABIES ARE NOT SO INNOCENT!"

"PANIC PREVAILED AND I BROKE INTO A SPRINT, AS WELL AS A SWEAT!"



"IN STRIKING A CURB I ADDED A NEW CRIME TO MY CAREER!"



"THEN I HAD A BRILLIANT BRAIN WAVE!"



"THE ANSWER TO MY DILEMMA WAS SO VERY SIMPLE!"

I SHALL MAKE RESTITUTION AND THROW MY GUILT-RIDDEN SELF ON THE MERCY OF THE COURT!



OUT OF THE WAY, M'SIEUR CONSCIENCE! I AM ABOUT TO RENDER YOU UNEMPLOYED! HAH!



"BUT ALAS, IN MY HASTE TO REFORM, I COMMITTED A NEW AND EVEN MORE HEINOUS CRIME!"

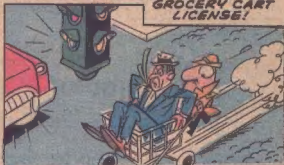


KIDNAPPER! KIDNAPPER! BRING BACK MY OSWALD!

"I WAS UNABLE TO CHECK MY DOWNHILL COURSE OF CRIMINAL ACTIVITY!"



"BY NOW I ALSO CONVICTED MYSELF FOR SPEEDING THROUGH A RED LIGHT AND DRIVING WITHOUT A GROCERY CART LICENSE!"



"I DECIDED TO PLOT AGAINST MYSELF AND HELP MY VICTIM!"

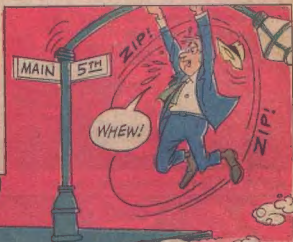
SSS! I WISH TO HELP YOU ESCAPE FROM MY DIABOLICAL CLUTCHES!



"HE WAS
A COOP-
ERATIVE
SORT!"



"AND SO I RELEASED MY KIDNAP
VICTIM UNHARMED, THOUGH SOMEWHAT
DIZZY, AT FIFTH AND MAIN!"



AND PLEASE... JUST FORGET ABOUT
ANY RANSOM MONIES! THIS KID-
NAPPING IS FOR FREE, SIR!



"I TRIED, BUT
IT IS DIFFICULT
TO SALVE
ONE'S
CONSCIENCE!"

"I MARR'D THE ENVIRONMENT AGAIN BY
STOPPING WITH MY RUBBER HEELS, BUT
ONCE ONE EMBARKS UPON A WAY OF LAW-
LESSNESS, ONE BECOMES MORE AND
MORE CALLOUSED!"



"NOW I WAS DETERMINED TO
RETURN THE CART WITHOUT
DEVIATION!"



"I PROCEEDED WITHOUT INCIDENT, BUT WHEN I APPROACHED THE BANK I
BECAME AWARE THAT FELLOW CRIMINALS WERE PRACTICING THEIR ILL SKILL!"



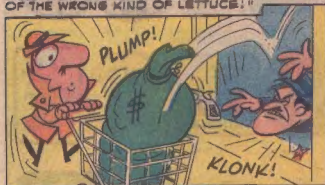
"BEING ALREADY CRAVAT-DEEP IN TROUBLE,
I RESOLVED TO PASS BY WITHOUT BECOM-
ING INVOLVED..."



"BUT THE AGGRESSIVE BANK
GUARD STUCK HIS FOOT IN IT, SO
TO SPEAK!"



"AND NOW I HAD A GROCERY CART FULL
OF THE WRONG KIND OF LETTUCE!"

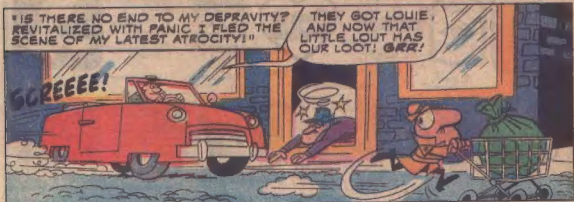


"CONSCIENCE WAS QUICK TO
ABUSE!"



"IS THERE NO END TO MY DEPRAVITY?
REVITALIZED WITH PANIC I FLED THE
SCENE OF MY LATEST ATROCITY!"

THEY GOT LOUIE,
AND NOW THAT
LITTLE LOOT HAS
OUR LOOT! GRR!



"THE DRIVING PARTNER TO THE ROBBERY PURSUED ME, AND THE POLICE
PURSUED BOTH OF US! I WAS NOW A FUGITIVE FROM BOTH THE LAW AND
THE LAWLESS!"

THERE GO THE
BANK ROBBERS!

GRR! THERE GOES THE
BANK ROBBER ROBBER!



"THERE IS SOMETHING INGRAINED IN THE CRIMINAL NATURE THAT ALWAYS LEADS HIM BACK TO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME..."

"TO MY HORROR THE GROCER NOW BLOCKED MY PERVERSE PATH!"

TONY'S GROCERY

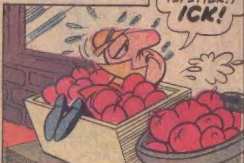
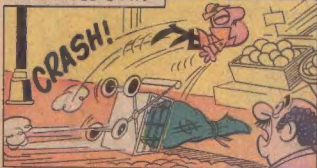
OH, INSPECTOR! INSPECTOR!



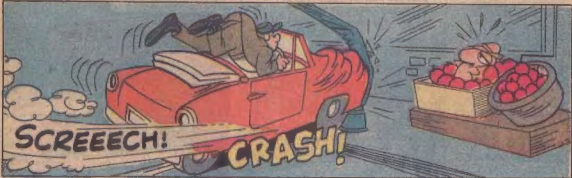
"TO AVOID A MURDER CHARGE I SWERVED INTO THE CURBING, THUS UPSETTING MY CRIME APPLE-CART!"

"A LIFE OF CRIME BEARS BITTER FRUIT! IN MY CASE, SOUR APPLES!"

(SPUTTER!)
ICK!



"THE BANK ROBBER, WHO WAS FOLLOWING TOO CLOSE, ALSO LEARNED HARSHLY WHAT IT MEANS TO CEASE ABRUPTLY FROM THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW!"



"BEFORE I COULD MAKE A COMPLETE CONFESSION..."

"THE POLICE HEAPED PRAISE UPON ME! I WAS A HERO!"

WHO CARES ABOUT THE CART? YOU RAN OFF WITHOUT YOUR CHANGE!

GOOD SOLID POLICE WORK, INSPECTOR!

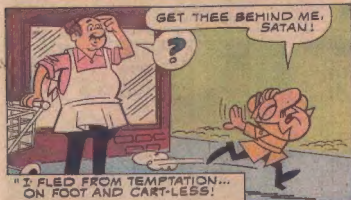
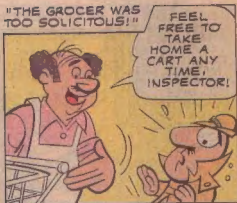
ER... THANK YOU, GENTLEMEN!



"NEEDLESS TO SAY, MY CONSCIENCE WAS PUT TO FLIGHT BY THE RECENT TURN OF EVENTS!"



"THE GROCER WAS TOO SOLICITOUS!"



"I VOWED NEVER TO GO GROCERY SHOPPING AGAIN!"

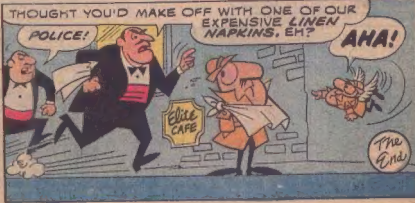


"I, WHO HAVE KNOWN THE DEPTHS OF DEPRAVITY AND WALKED THE DARK ROAD OF LAWLESSNESS, AND TASTED THE BITTER GALL OF GUILT, SHALL TAKE NO CHANCES... I SHALL EAT ONLY IN RESTAURANTS FROM NOW ON!"

AHH! GOOD-BYE FOREVER, LIFE OF TEMPTATION AND CRIME!



"HOW SAFE AND SATISFYING! THE ONLY WAY TO EAT... AND STAY HONEST!"



THE INSPECTOR

Case of:

THE STOLEN KISS

"IT WAS NO MERE ROUTINE INVESTIGATION THAT SENT ME SCURRYING TO SEE MISS GLADYS GLAMMOOR, OWNER OF 'MAGIC COSMETICS': A REPORT HAD COME IN THAT AN UNKNOWN PERSON HAD **STOLEN A KISS FROM HER!**"

HMM...
QUITE A
PAINT
JOB!

MAGIC COSMETICS



"MY TRAINED EYE MISSED NOT A SINGLE DETAIL..."

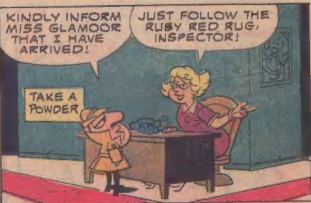


HMM! NO
CAVITIES!

KINDLY INFORM
MISS GLAMMOOR
THAT I HAVE
ARRIVED!

JUST FOLLOW THE
RUBY RED RUG,
INSPECTOR!

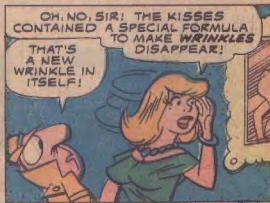
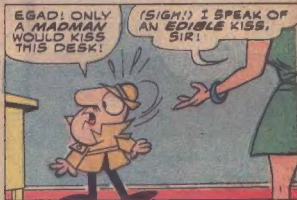
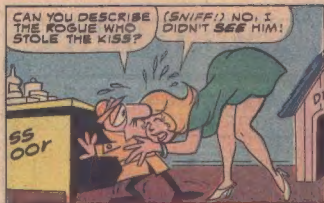
TAKE A
POWDER



BOO-HOO-HOO! OH, INSPECTOR! THIS IS
POSITIVELY DREADFUL! BOO-HOO-HOO!

MY POOR WOMAN! YOU MAY CRY ON MY
SHOULDER! I'M WEARING A WATER-
PROOF TRENCHCOAT!





DAN DRUFF, OWNER OF "PIXIE DUST COSMETICS," WOULD GIVE HIS EYETEETH FOR THE FORMULA!

I'LL CALL ON HIM PROMPTLY, MADAM!



YOU NEEDN'T GO FAR... HE'S FOREVER TRYING TO SPY-OUT MY COSMETIC SECRETS!

A PERISCOPE!

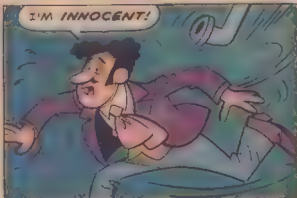


AHEM! A FEW ROUTINE QUESTIONS FOR YOU, SIR!

UH-OH! THE INSPECTOR!



I'M INNOCENT!

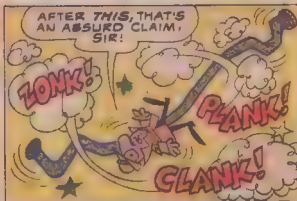


AFTER THIS, THAT'S AN ABSURD CLAIM, SIR!

ZONK!

PLANK!

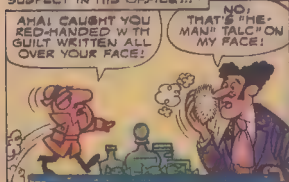
GLANK!



"HOWEVER, I APPREHENDED THE SUSPECT IN HIS OFFICE..."

AH! CAUGHT YOU RED-HANDED WITH GUILT WRITTEN ALL OVER YOUR FACE!

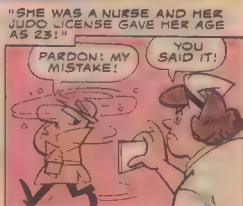
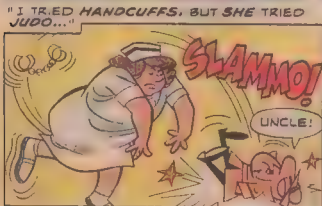
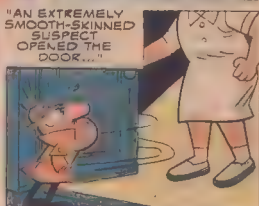
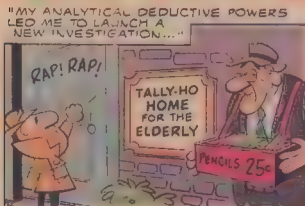
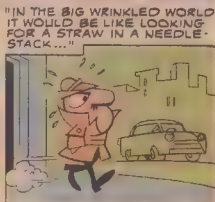
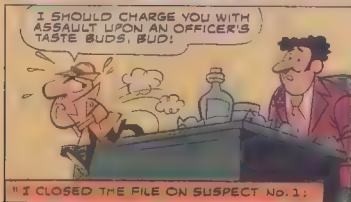
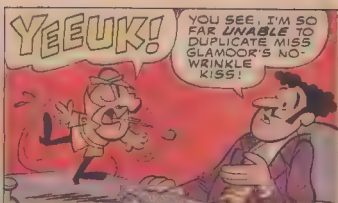
NO! THAT'S "HE-MAN" TALCUM ON MY FACE!



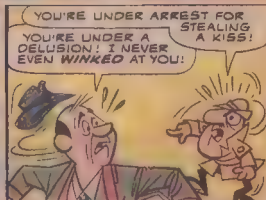
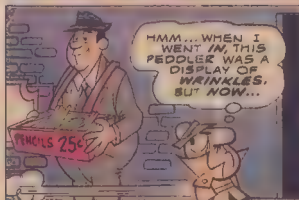
BUT THESE ARE KISSES ON YOUR DESK, SIR.

HELP YOURSELF... SEE WHAT GOOD IT DOES!





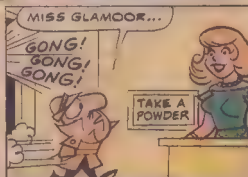
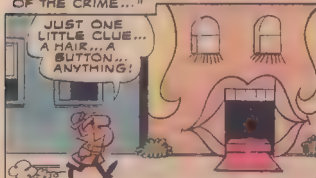
"BUT EVERY RESIDENT WAS ENCASED IN WRINKLES...EVEN THE RATHER TARNISHED GOLDFISH..."



"BUT NOW I HAD EXHAUSTED EVERY POSSIBILITY...AND MYSELF!"



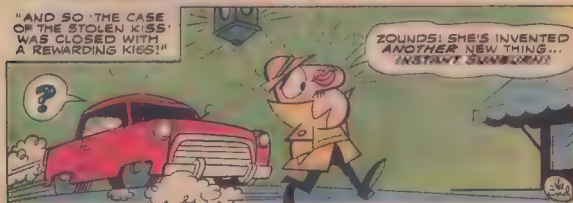
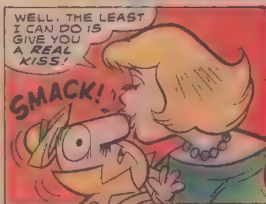
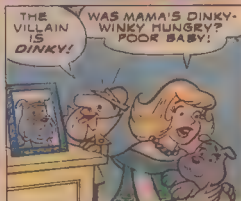
"I DECIDED TO RETURN TO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME..."



"I WAS RUDELY INTERRUPTED BY THE STROKE OF TWELVE!"



"MY ALERT MENTAL FACULTIES STARTED TO PUT TWO-AND-TWO, AND KISS-AND-PUG TOGETHER!"



THE PINK PANTHER

The Fortune Cookie

THAT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE HONG KONG! I THINK I SHOULD HAVE TURNED LEFT AT SUMATRA!

HONORABLE FORTUNE-TELLER NOW TOSSES MAGIC STICKS!

MESSAGE FROM MAGIC STICKS TELL US HOW TO ELUDE TAX COLLECTOR!

HEE
HEE

ANY MESSAGE, HONORABLE FORTUNE-TELLER?

STAND BACK: STICKS MUST NOT BE MOVED UNTIL I STUDY THEM!

I SEE TALL STRANGER SKILLED IN THE MARTIAL ARTS OF KUNG FUCIUS COME TO VILLAGE! NOW LEAVE ME - I MUST CONCENTRATE ON DETAILS!

LOOK!

THE ROADS ARE CRAWLING THESE DAYS WITH TALL AMERICAN STRANGERS!

HE DOESN'T LOOK TOO AMERICAN, BUT HE'S TALL... AND CERTAINLY STRANGE!

DUM
DE
DUM

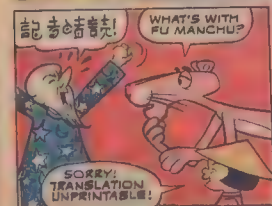
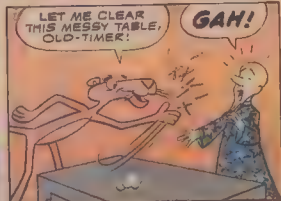
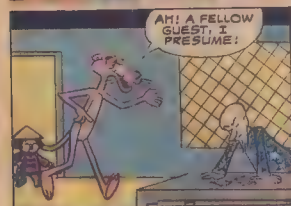
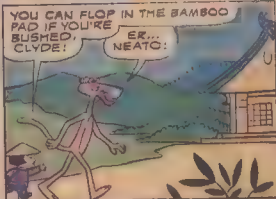
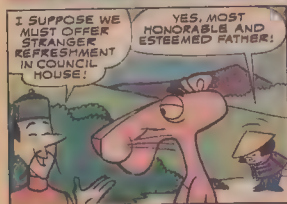
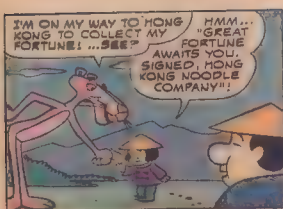
NUMBER ONE SON WILL INTERPRET FOR VILLAGE!

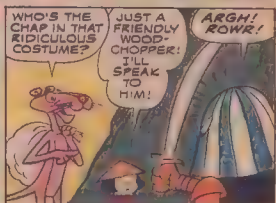
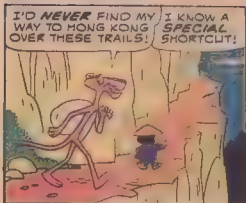
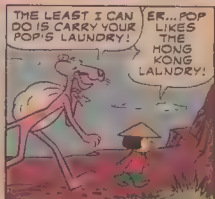
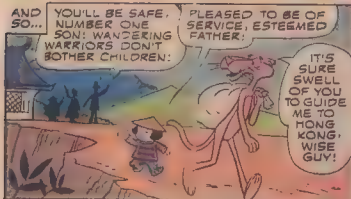
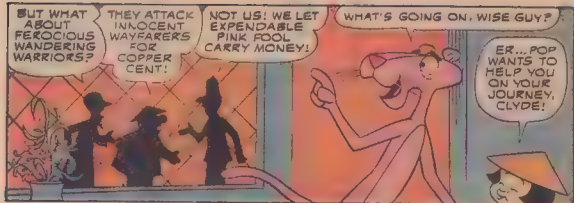
THIS LOWLY ONE IS PLEASED TO OBEY HONORABLE FATHER!

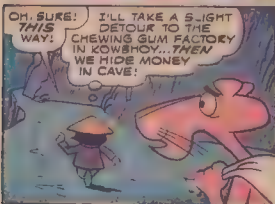
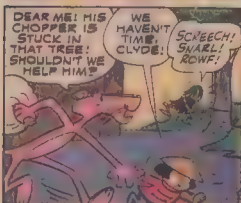
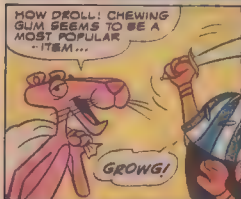
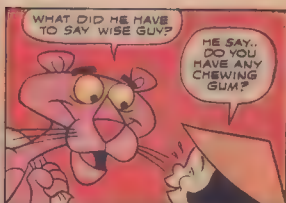
HELLO, THERE!

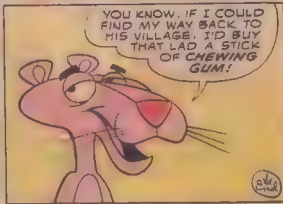
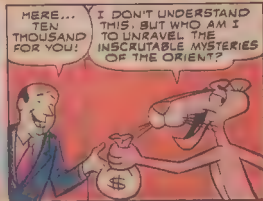
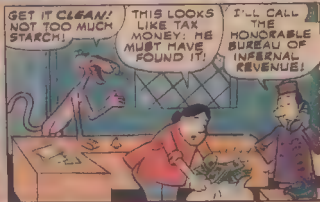
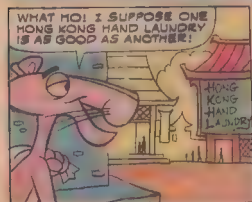
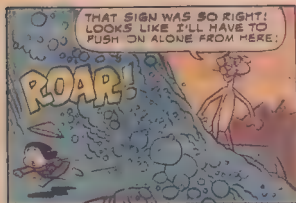
GREETINGS! I'M WY SKY, INTERPRETER! THE GUY WITH THE CHARLIE CHAN MUSTACHE IS MY OLD MAN! HAVE YOU GOT ANY CHEWING GUM?

SORRY, WISE GUY, I NEVER INDULGE!



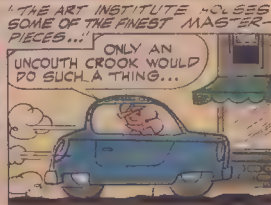
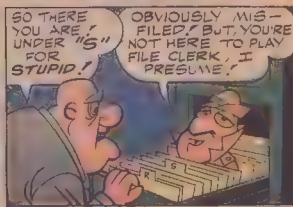
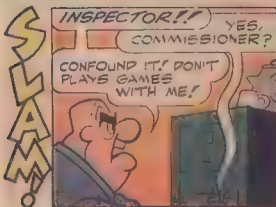






THE INSPECTOR

Case of: *THE MISSING MASTERPIECES*



"WHEN I ARRIVED, THE DIRECTOR OF THE ART INSTITUTE WAS IN A STATE OF EXTREME ANXIETY..."

WIND DOWN, DEAR SIR...
AND LET ME WIND
UP THE CASE!

SOB!

THE ART
INSTITUTE

MY "BLUE TATTOO" IS
GONE!

PERHAPS
YOUR BATH
SOAP IS TOO
STRONG!

NO! NO! "BLUE TATTOO" IS AN OIL PAINTING! IT WAS STOLEN
IN BROAD DAYLIGHT, AND THIS MONSTROSITY WAS LEFT IN

QUICKLY! LOCK ALL DOORS,
WINDOWS AND SKYLIGHTS!

IT'S
PLACE!

BLUE TATTOO

"I PROCEEDED TO INTER-
ROGATE THE OCCUPANTS."

GUARDS, DID YOU
NOTICE ANYTHING
PECULIAR?

NOT UNTIL YOU
ARRIVED, SIR!

HMM...
WHAT
ARE
YOU
DOING?

PAINTING,
INSPECTOR!

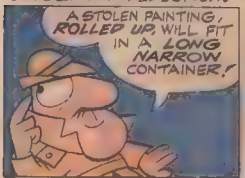
BY COPYING THE OLD MASTERS
I HOPE TO MASTER
THEIR SKILLS!

DID YOU
SEE ANYBODY
TOUCH THAT
PAINTING?

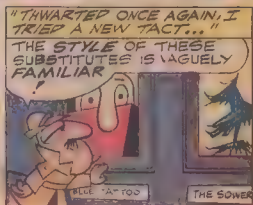
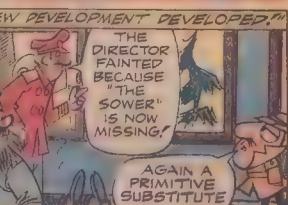
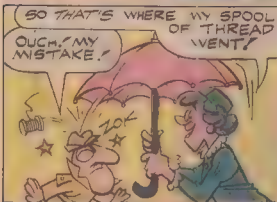
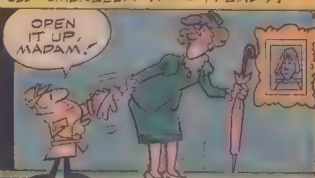
NO, I'VE HAD MY NOSE TO MY
CANVAS
CONTINUALLY!

THAT'S
BETTER
THAN PUTTING
IT TO A
GRINDSTONE!

"I WAS DAZZLED BY MY
BRILLIANT REFLECTION!"



"I PROMPTLY ARRESTED A LITTLE
OLD UMBRELLA WITH A LADY."



"INSTRUCTING NOBODY TO LEAVE THE SCENE, I LEFT IT, HOPING TO TRACE THE FAMILIAR ART STYLE OF THE SUBSTITUTES..."



"SOME OF THE ART WAS ALMOST INSULTING!"



"SUDDENLY I WAS AWARE THAT EYES WERE UPON ME



"NEXT...A BEEFY HAND!"

YOU GOOF-OFF! THE ART INSTITUTE HAS JUST BEEN ROBBED A THIRD TIME!



IF YOU DON'T WRAP UP THIS CASE SOON, I'LL DEMOTE YOU TO POUNDING A BEAT!



"AND SO, MY VERY CAREER WAS AT STAKE!"



"I RETURNED TO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME WITH DOGGED DETERMINATION!"



"HAVING WHITE-WASHED MYSELF, I POSED AS A STATUE, HOPING TO CATCH THE ART THIEF IN THE ACT..."

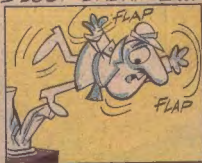
WHO WOULD GUESS THAT I'M NOT A REAL PIGEON?



"BUT THE ONLY CRIME I WITNESSED WAS COMMITTED ON MY OWN PERSON BY THE GUARD!"



"FINALLY, DUE TO THE DIFFICULT POSE, I LOST BALANCE..."



"AND SIMULTANEOUSLY I FELL FROM THE HONORED OFFICE OF INSPECTOR!"

A FOURTH MASTERPIECE WAS STOLEN WHILE YOU PLAYED PIGEON. YOU ARE DEMOTED TO... TO...



...TO PATROLMAN?

NO! TO NOTHING! PLAIN UNADPATERED NOTHING!

"TO BE AN ORDINARY UNGLORIFIED CITIZEN IS A MOST DIFFICULT ROLE FOR ME TO ASSUME...."

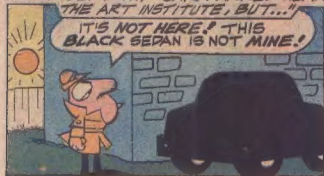


"HOW MOST OF YOU CAN STAND TO BE ORDINARY CITIZENS TAXES MY CREDIBILITY!"

"I WALKED THE STREETS ALL NIGHT IN A STATE OF SHOCK!"



"AT DAWN IT DAWNED ON ME THAT I HAD LEFT MY CAR PARKED NEAR THE ART INSTITUTE, BUT..."



POLICE! MY CAR HAS BEEN STOLEN! PO

PARDON, SIR....!



WE ACCIDENTALLY DUMPED SOME TAR ON THIS CAR. IF YOU SEE THE OWNER...

SO THAT IS IT, HEH! I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE IT IN A NEW COAT!



YOU CAN BORROW OUR SCRAPER TO....
... SIR, DO YOU HEAR ME?



"I HEARD HIM NOT, FOR MY FERTILE BRAIN WAS FERTILIZING!"

THANK YOU, GENTLEMEN, YOU HAVE INSPIRED ME TO SOLVE THE MYSTERY OF THE MISSING MASTERPIECES.



"I CONCEALED MYSELF CLEVERLY IN THE ALLEY BEHIND THE ART INSTITUTE!"

"THEN EVENTS BEGAN TO UNFOLD JUST AS I EXPECTED!"

THESE SUBSTITUTE PAINTINGS ARE TRASH!

YES, SIR, MR. DIRECTOR OF ARTS!



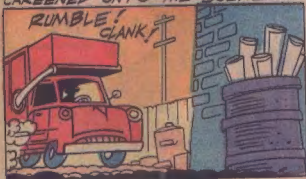
AND SO... TRASH BELONGS IN THE TRASH BARREL!



"MYSELF EXEMPTED, OF COURSE!"

"PROMPTLY A TRASH TRUCK
CARNEED ONTO THE SCENE..."

"THE TRASH MAN LOOKED
FAMILIAR! I POISED WITH
HANDCUFFS COCKED..."



YOU ARE UNDER ARREST
FOR GRAND THEFT, MR.
MASTERPIECE COPIER!

THE JIG IS UP!

CLICK!

EH? THE
ARTIST WHO
WAS COPYING
IN HERE
YESTERDAY!

YES! ALLOW ME
TO RECONSTRUCT
THE CRIMES, MR.
DIRECTOR?...

"WHEN NO ONE WAS LOOKING HE
QUICKLY PAINTED OVER THE
MASTERPIECES WITH QUICK
DRYING PAINT... NOTE HIS LARGE
BRUSH..."



AWK! I THREW AWAY
THE MASTERPIECES!
WE MUST CLEAN THE
PAINT OFF OF
THEM!

HEH! THE
COMMISSIONER
WILL REINSTATE
ME NOW!



SO... OKAY,
YOU'RE
"INSPECTOR"
AGAIN!

YES, INDEED!

ER... HOW
ABOUT A
MEDAL
TOO, FOR
WORK EXTRA-
ORDINARY?

THESE TAR-SPILLERS DESERVE
FULL CREDIT!

